

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (previously presented) A notification module for a voice messaging system, comprising:

a Caller ID information detector/receiver to detect and receive Caller ID information, which is provided by a telephone company via a service, regarding incoming telephone calls;

an auto dialing calling module adapted to initiate a communication with a user at a remote location;

a user defined table associating particular events with a need for notification of said user; and

a controller to activate said auto dialing calling module to automatically send a notification message to said user upon satisfaction of a particular event based on Caller ID information and based on receipt of at least two telephone calls from a particular caller or a group of callers within a predetermined range of time as defined by one or more entries in said user defined table.

2. (canceled)

3. (original) The notification module for a voice messaging system according to claim 1, wherein:

said particular events include a occurrence of a predetermined number of telephone calls from a particular caller.

4. (canceled)

5. (canceled)

6. (original) The notification module for a voice messaging system according to claim 1, further comprising:

a notification message to be communicated to said remote user.

7. (original) The notification module for a voice messaging system according to claim 6, wherein:

said notification message is an audible message.

8. (original) The notification module for a voice messaging system according to claim 6, wherein:

said notification message is a textual message.

9. (original) The notification module for a voice messaging system according to claim 1, further comprising:

a remote notification designation identifying a communication address of said remote user.

10. (original) The notification module for a voice messaging system according to claim 9, wherein:

said communication address is a telephone number of said remote user.

11. (original) The notification module for a voice messaging system according to claim 10, wherein:

said communication is provided by establishment of a telephone call.

12. (original) The notification module for a voice messaging system according to claim 10, wherein:

said communication includes transmission of information over the Internet.

13. (original) The notification module for a voice messaging system according to claim 10, wherein:

said communication is an email message.

14. (original) The notification module for a voice messaging system according to claim 10, wherein:

said voice messaging system is a telephone answering device.

15. (canceled)

16. (previously presented) A method for notifying a user of a voice messaging system or other designated party upon satisfaction of a predetermined event based on logged call related information regarding incoming calls, comprising:

logging a plurality of entries of Caller ID information, which is provided by a telephone company via a service, as it is received by said voice messaging system;

after said plurality of entries of Caller ID information have been received, reviewing said plurality of entries of logged Caller ID information for satisfaction of a predetermined event by one or more of said incoming calls based on receipt of at least two telephone calls from a particular caller or a group of callers within a predetermined range of time; and

automatically calling a remote user with a notification message in response to satisfaction of said predetermined event.

17. (original) The method for notifying a user of a voice messaging system or other designated party upon satisfaction of a predetermined event based on logged call related information regarding incoming calls according to claim 16, wherein:

said remote user is notified by the establishment of a telephone call from said voice message system.

18. (original) The method for notifying a user of a voice messaging system or other designated party upon satisfaction of a predetermined event based on logged call related information regarding incoming calls according to claim 16, wherein:

said remote user is notified with an audible notification message.

19. (original) The method for notifying a user of a voice messaging system or other designated party upon satisfaction of a predetermined event based on logged call related information regarding incoming calls according to claim 16, wherein:

said remote user is notified with a textual notification message.

20. (original) The method for notifying a user of a voice messaging system or other designated party upon satisfaction of a predetermined event based on logged call related information regarding incoming calls according to claim 16, wherein:

said textual notification message is an email message.

21. (canceled)

22. (original) The method for notifying a user of a voice messaging system or other designated party upon satisfaction of a predetermined event based on logged call related information regarding incoming calls according to claim 16, wherein:

said voice messaging system is a telephone answering device.

23. (previously presented) Apparatus for notifying a user of a voice messaging system or other designated party upon satisfaction of a predetermined event based on logged call related information regarding incoming calls, comprising:

means for logging a plurality of entries of Caller ID information, which is provided by a telephone company via a service, as it is received by said voice messaging system;

means for reviewing, after said plurality of entries of Caller ID information have been received, said plurality of entries of logged Caller ID information for satisfaction of a predetermined event by one or more of said incoming calls based on receipt of at least two telephone calls from a particular caller or a group of callers within a predetermined range of time; and

means for automatically notifying a remote user with a notification message in response to satisfaction of said predetermined event.

24. (previously presented) A telephone answering device comprising:

a Caller ID information detector/receiver to detect and receive Caller ID information, which is provided by a telephone company via a service, regarding incoming telephone calls;

a controller;

a voice recorder/playback module; and

a calling module activated by receipt of predetermined Caller ID information, said calling module being adapted to automatically initiate a telephone call to a predetermined notification telephone number upon satisfaction of a predetermined event based on receipt of at least two telephone calls from a particular caller or a group of callers within a predetermined range of time, to notify a remote user with a notification message.

25. (original) The telephone answering device according to claim 24, wherein:

said calling module is further adapted to provide a notification message to a party answering said predetermined notification telephone number.

26. (currently amended) A notification module for a voice messaging system, comprising:

a Caller ID information detector/receiver to detect and receive Caller ID information, which is provided by a telephone company via a service, regarding incoming telephone calls;

an auto notification module adapted to initiate a communication with a user at a remote location;

a user defined table associating particular events with a need for notification of said user; and

a controller to activate said auto notification module to automatically send a notification message to said user upon satisfaction of a particular event based on Caller ID information indicating receipt of at least two telephone calls from a particular caller or a group of callers within a predetermined range of time, said notification message being communicated via an Internet.

27. (previously presented) The notification module for a voice messaging system according to claim 26, wherein:

said notification message communicated via said Internet is an email message.

28. (previously presented) The notification module for a voice messaging system according to claim 26, wherein:

said notification message is an audible message.

29. (previously presented) The notification module for a voice messaging system according to claim 26, wherein:

said notification message is a textual message.